

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 05534 131736Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 SAM-01

SAJ-01 /062 W

----- 118249

R 131554Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8206

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5534

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT,PO

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: OPORTO POLICE CHIEF IMPRISONED

REF: (A) LISBON 5463 (DTG 111727Z AUG 76), (B) LISBON 5476
(DTG 121047Z AUG 76), (C) LISBON 5504 (DTG 121710Z AUG 76)

SUMMARY: OPORTO POLICE CHIEF FREITAS WAS ARRESTED AUG 12,
ACCUSED OF LINKS TO TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. ARREST OF ALLEGED
TERRORISTS AND POSSIBLE EXPOSURE OF THEIR CONNECTION TO HIGH GOP
OFFICIALS CONTINUES TO WORRY THE GOVERNMENT. THE AUG 12
SHUFFLE IN THE POLITICAL-MILITARY STRUCTURE HAS OVERSHADOWED
SPINOLA'S RELEASE, BUT PROTESTS FROM THE LEFT CONTINUE.
END SUMMARY.

1. OPORTO POLICE CHIEF IMPRISONED: INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 05534 131736Z

AUG 12 THAT OPORTO POLICE CHIEF MAJ MOTA FREITAS HAD BEEN

SUSPENDED AND IMPRISONED AT CAXIAS OUTSIDE LISBON. FREITAS HAD BEEN KEPT IN LISBON SINCE AUG 8 DUE TO HIS SUSPECTED LINKS TO TERRORIST BOMBERS (REF A). THE PRESS IS FILLED WITH RUMORS OF FURTHER ARRESTS AND SPECULATION ABOUT CONNECTIONS BETWEEN HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS AND THE BOMBERS. PRESIDENT'S CHIEF OF CIVIL HOUSEHOLD TOLD US AUG 12 THAT JUDICIAL POLICE ARE MISHANDLING INVESTIGATION AND MAKING PREMATURE ARRESTS.

2. REACTION TO SPINOLA RELEASE: THE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL-MILITARY STRUCTURE ANNOUNCED AUG 12 OVERSHADOWED SPINOLA'S RELEASE ON THE SAME DAY (REF B AND C). PROTESTS NEVERTHELESS CONTINUED WITH FOLLOWING EVENTS HAVING TAKEN OR ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE:

-- A COMMUNIST-SPONSORED MOTION IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC AUG 12 TO PROTEST THE RELEASE OF SPINOLA WAS DEFEATED. ONLY THE FAR LEFT UDP BACKED THE COMMUNIST POSITION. THE PS ABSTAINED.

-- THREE SHIFTS AT THE SETENAVE SHIPYARD HELD TWO-HOUR WORK STOPPAGES.

-- GDUP "POPULAR POWER" FORCES HAVE SCHEDULED A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION AUG 13 IN LISBON AND OPORTO.

-- INTERSINDICAL AND OTHER UNIONS ISSUED PROTESTS REGARDING SPINOLA'S RELEASE.

3. ASSEMBLY ACTION: THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OVERRODE COMMUNIST DELAYING TACTICS AUG 12 TO PAVE THE WAY FOR AN EARLY VOTE ON THE GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR BROAD AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION DURING THE ASSEMBLY'S RECESS UNTIL OCTOBER. THE ASSEMBLY ELECTED ISABEL MAGALHAES COLACO AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION. COLACO, A RESPECTED LAW PROFESSOR, SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE FOLLOWING THE APRIL 25, 1974 COUP.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS CONTINUING CONCERN IN THE GOVERNMENT OVER LINKS BETWEEN TERRORIST BOMBERS AND HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS. THE PROTESTS GENERATED BY THE RELEASE OF SPINOLA ADD TO GOP WORRIES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT POLICE, BITTER ABOUT THE ARREST OF MAJ FREITAS, ARE ITCHING TO REACT WITH EXCESSIVE FORCE IF THE GDUP PROVIDE ANY PROVOCATION.

CARLUCCI
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LISBON 05534 131736Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON05534
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760312-0902
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760856/aaaabwpg.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 5463, 76 LISBON 5476
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: OPORTO POLICE CHIEF IMPRISONED
TAGS: PINT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006